Claims 25, 28, and 30-37 are cancelled. Claims 1-4, 8-9, 11-14, 18-19, 21 and 24 are amended. New claims 38-58 are added. Claims 1-24, 26-27, 29 and 38-58 are pending.

Support for the claim language "an agent which inhibits the 2'-deoxyadenosine analog from decomposing in the acidic environment of the stomach by reducing acid concentration in the stomach" and examples of this agent appears at page 11, lines 16-21. Support for the claim language "wherein the 2'deoxyadenosine analog is pentostatin or cladribine" appears at page 1, lines 16-20.

## REMARKS

In light of the amendments set forth above, Applicants earnestly believe that they are entitled to a letters patent, and respectfully solicit the Examiner to expedite prosecution of this patent application to issuance. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by current second preliminary amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made**.".

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 17, 2003

By: _____

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U.S. Application No. 09/763,497

## VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 25, 28, 30-37.

Please amend the following claims:

1. (Amended) A composition comprising:

an acid-labile 2'-deoxyadenosine analog which chemically decomposes in an acidic environment of the stomach; and

[one or more components] an agent which inhibits the 2'-deoxyadenosine analog from decomposing in the acidic environment of the stomach by [isolating the 2'-deoxyadenosine analog from the acidic environment of] reducing acid concentration in the stomach;

wherein the composition is suitable to be administered orally to a patient.

2. (Amended) The composition according to claim 1 wherein the 2'deoxyadenosine analog is pentostatin or cladribine.

3. (Amended) The composition according to claim [1] 43, wherein the one or more components of the composition form an erodible matrix.

4. (Amended) The composition according to claim [1] 43, wherein the one or more components of the composition include an enteric coating.

8. (Amended) The composition according to claim [1] 43, wherein the one or more components of the composition include an ion exchange resin that forms a complex with the 2'-deoxyadenosine analog.

9. (Amended) The composition according to claim [1] 43, wherein the one or more components of the composition include [injectable] micro spheres.

11. (Amended) A method for treating a patient comprising:

orally administering to the patient a pharmaceutically-effective amount of a composition which is adapted for oral administration and comprises[:]

a 2'-deoxyadenosine analog which chemically decomposes in an acidic environment of the stomach, and

[one or more components] an agent which inhibits the [2'-deoxy adenosine] 2'-deoxyadenosine analog from decomposing in the acidic environment of the stomach by [isolating the adenosine analog from the acidic environment of] reducing acid concentration in the stomach.

12. (Amended) The method according to claim 11 wherein the 2'deoxyadenosine analog is pentostatin or cladribine.

13. (Amended) The method according to claim [11] 49, wherein the one or more components of the composition form an erodible matrix.

14. (Amended) The method according to claim [11] 49, wherein the one or more components of the composition include an enteric coating.

18. (Amended) The method according to claim [11] 49, wherein the one or more components of the composition comprise an ion exchange resin that forms a complex with the 2'-deoxyadenosine analog.

19. (Amended) The method according to claim [11] 49, wherein the one or more components of the composition comprise [injectable] micro spheres.

21. (Amended) The method according to claim 11 wherein the patient has a disease selected from the group consisting of hematological malignancies, solid tumors sensitive to 2'-deoxyadenosine analogs or adenosine deaminase inhibitors, and autoimmune diseases mediated by adenosine or adenosine deaminase.

24. (Amended) [A method for treating a patient comprising:

orally administering in a controlled-release mechanism to the patient a composition which is adapted for oral administration and comprises:

a 2'-deoxyadenosine analog which chemically decomposes in an acidic environment of the stomach, and

one or more components of the composition which inhibit the 2'-deoxyadenosine analog from decomposing in the acidic environment of the stomach by isolating the 2'-deoxyadenosine analog from the acidic environment of the stomach.]

The method of claim 11, wherein the orally administering the composition to the patient includes orally administering the composition in a controlled release mechanism.